



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/734,137	12/15/2003	Yoshikazu Kawamoto	1341.1165	9242
21171	7590	03/23/2006	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			AU, GARY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2617	

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/734,137	Applicant(s) KAWAMOTO, YOSHIKAZU	
	Examiner Gary Au	Art Unit 2681	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,782,266 Baer et al. (Baer).

Considering claim 7, Baer teaches a portable communication apparatus (wireless device 110 – figure 1, col. 2 lines 17-34), comprising: a radio communication unit that performs communication over a radio wave having a specific frequency (first transceiver 150 – figure 1, col. 4 lines 20-45); a detection unit that detects wave that travels with a frequency that is different from the specific frequency (second transceiver 152 – figure 1, col. 46-53), in a predetermined area (restricted wireless zone 102 – figure 1, col. 2 lines 17-34), the wave being other than the radio wave (RWZ transceiver 126 – figure 1, col. 3 lines 14-35); and a stop control unit that stops the radio communication unit from performing a communication function when the detection unit detects the wave (col. 5 lines 35-49).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-3, 8, 12, 13 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,782,266 Baer et al. (Baer) and further in view of US Patent No. 6,985,729 (Fujii).

Considering claim 1, Baer teaches a portable communication apparatus (wireless device 110 – figure 1, col. 2 lines 17-34), comprising: a radio communication unit that performs communication over a radio wave having a specific frequency (first transceiver 150 – figure 1, col. 4 lines 20-45); a detection unit that detects a wave that travels with a frequency that is different from the specific frequency (second transceiver 152 – figure 1, col. 46-53), in a predetermined area (restricted wireless zone 102 – figure 1, col. 2 lines 17-34), the wave being other than the radio wave (RWZ transceiver 126 – figure 1, col. 3 lines 14-35); and a stop control unit that stops the radio communication unit from performing a communication function (col. 5 lines 35-49). However, Baer does not disclose a notification unit that notifies a user of the portable communication apparatus a notification when the detection unit detects the wave, the notification indicating that the portable communication apparatus is present in the predetermined area; and stops the radio communications unit according to an instruction from the user.

In an analogous art, Fujii teaches notifying the user is present in the predetermined area (col. 15 line 58 – col. 16 line 10) and stops the connection according to an instruction from the user (col. 9 lines 10-13).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Baer's system to include notifying the user is present in the predetermined area and stops the connection according to an instruction from the user, as taught by Fujii, for the advantage of allowing the user to make selections.

Considering claim 12, Baer teaches a portable communication apparatus (wireless device 110 – figure 1, col. 2 lines 17-34), comprising: a radio communication unit that performs communication over a radio wave having a specific frequency (first transceiver 150 – figure 1, col. 4 lines 20-45); a detection unit that detects a wave that travels with a frequency that is different from the specific frequency (second transceiver 152 – figure 1, col. 46-53), in a predetermined area (restricted wireless zone 102 – figure 1, col. 2 lines 17-34), and that determines an attribute of the predetermined area, the wave being other than the radio wave (RWZ transceiver 126 – figure 1, col. 3 lines 14-35); a stop control unit that stops the radio communication unit from performing a communication function, and that stops the radio communication unit from performing the communication function when the attribute indicates the prohibited area (col. 5 lines 35-49). However, Baer does not disclose a notification unit that notifies a user of the portable communication apparatus a notification when the attribute indicates a warning area adjacent to a prohibited area, the notification indicating that the portable

Art Unit: 2684

communication apparatus is present in the warning area and stops the radio communication unit according to an instruction from the user.

In an analogous art, Fujii teaches notifying the user is present in the predetermined area (col. 15 line 58 – col. 16 line 10) and stops the connection according to an instruction from the user (col. 9 lines 10-13).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Baer's system to include notifying the user is present in the predetermined area and stops the connection according to an instruction from the user, as taught by Fujii, for the advantage of allowing the user to make selections.

Considering claim 2, Fujii further teaches the stop control unit receives the instruction from the user for a predetermined period after the notification is notified (col. 9 lines 10-13).

Considering claims 3, 8 and 13, Baer further teaches the wave includes an electromagnetic wave (col. 3 lines 14-36).

Considering claim 17, Baer further teaches a stop cancellation unit that allows the radio communication unit to perform the communication function when the detection unit does not detect the wave after the communication function is stopped (col. 8 lines 12-21).

Considering claim 18, Baer further teaches a storage unit that receives information to be transmitted over the radio wave after the stop cancellation unit allows the radio communication

Art Unit: 2684

unit to perform the communication function and that stores the information (memory 156 – figure 1, col. 4 lines 54-61).

Considering claim 19, Baer further teaches an alternative communication unit that holds alternative communication over a medium other than the radio wave when the communication function is stopped (second transceiver 152 – figure 3, col. 5 lines 35-49).

5. Claims 4-6, 9-10 and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,782,266 Baer et al. (Baer) and US Patent No. 6,985,729 (Fujii) as applied to claims 1, 7 and 12 above, and further in view of US Patent Application No. 2004/0087318 (Lipovski).

As to claims 4, 9 and 14, the combine system of Baer and Fujii teaches the electromagnetic wave but fails to disclose the frequency defined as light.

In an analogous art, Lipovski teaches the frequency defined as light (infrared, [0017]).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined system of Baer and Fujii to include the frequency defined as light, as taught by Lipovski, for the advantage of muting devices in restricted area.

As to claims 5, 10 and 15, the combined system of Baer of Fujii teaches the electromagnetic wave but fails to disclose the frequency defined as infrared.

In an analogous art, Lipovski teaches the frequency defined as infrared (infrared, [0017]).

Art Unit: 2684

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined system of Baer and Fujii to include the frequency defined as infrared, as taught by Lipovski, for the advantage of muting devices in restricted area.

As to claims 6 and 16, the combined system of Baer of Fujii teaches the wave but fails to disclose the wave includes an ultrasonic wave.

In an analogous art, Lipovski teaches the wave includes an ultrasonic wave [0018]).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined system of Baer and Fujii to include the wave includes an ultrasonic wave, as taught by Lipovski, for the advantage of muting devices in restricted area.

6. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bear et al. (6,782,266) in view of US Patent Application No. 2004/0087318 (Lipovski).

As to claim 11, the combined system of Baer teaches the wave but fails to disclose the wave includes an ultrasonic wave.

In an analogous art, Lipovski teaches the wave includes an ultrasonic wave [0018]).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined system of Baer to include the wave includes an ultrasonic wave, as taught by Lipovski, for the advantage of muting devices in restricted area.

7. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,782,266 Baer et al. (Baer) and US Patent No. 6,985,729 (Fujii) as applied to claim 17 above, and further in view of US Patent No. 6,760,605 Vannel et al. (Vannel).

Art Unit: 2684

As to claim 20, the combined system of Baer and Fujii teaches stopping the communication unit but fails to disclose restarting the communication function.

In an analogous art, Vannel teaches restarting the communication function (col. 5 lines 28-31).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined system of Baer and Fujii to include restarting the communication function, as taught by Vannel, for the advantage of getting the system in default mode (col. 5 lines 28-31).

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent No. 6,832,093 (Ranta) teaches a cellular radio system comprises a multitude of base stations for offering a radio interface to mobile terminals. US Patent No. 6,973,333 (O'Neil) teaches restrictions on use of a cellular telephone in a vehicle are imposed using a global position system device to determine the location of a vehicle in relation to geographic regions in which legal or customer restrictions on cellular telephone use are to be imposed.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary Au whose telephone number is (571) 272-2822. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am-5pm Monday to Friday.

Art Unit: 2684

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lester Kincaid can be reached on (571)272-7922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GA


NICK CORSARO
PRIMARY EXAMINER